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In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (cancelled)

2. (new) An exterior rearview mirror assembly comprising:

a mirror element having a front surface and a rear surface, the mirror element having a portion allowing light to pass therethrough;

a member located adjacent the rear surface of the mirror element, the member including an area aligned with the portion of the mirror element; and

a light source emitting light, the light being directed at the area;

the area of the member and the portion of the mirror element allowing light from the light source to pass therethrough;

wherein the area includes a diffuser to diffuse light passing through the element.

3. (new) The exterior rearview mirror assembly of claim 2, wherein:

the mirror element comprises an electrochromic mirror subassembly including a front glass element and a rear glass element, with electrochromic material located between the front glass element and the rear glass element.

4. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 2, wherein:

the light source comprises a LED.

5. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 2, wherein:

the diffuser is directly applied to the member.

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6. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 5, wherein:
the diffuser is a light diffusing panel placed over the area.
7. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 2, wherein:
the diffuser is applied to a surface of the member in the area.
8. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 7, wherein:
the diffuser comprises a roughening of the surface.
9. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 2, wherein:
the light source directs the light at the portion of the mirror element.
10. (new) A method of assembling an exterior rearview mirror assembly comprising:
providing a member having an area adapted to allow light to pass therethrough; and
treating the area of the member to diffuse the light passing through the member.
11. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein:
treating comprises directly applying a panel to the member.
12. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein:
treating comprises treating a surface of the member in the area.
13. (new) The method of claim 12, wherein:
treating comprises roughening the surface.
14. (new) An apparatus for an exterior vehicle mirror assembly including a reflective element having inner and outer surfaces and a light source positioned to direct light toward the inner surface of the reflective element, the apparatus comprising:
a member extending between the inner surface of the reflective element and the light

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source, the member including an area adapted to allow light from the light source to pass therethrough; and

a light diffuser positioned over the area of the member to diffuse light passing through the element.

15. (new) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

the diffuser is directly applied to the element.

16. (new) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein:

the diffuser is a light diffusing panel placed over the area.

17. (new) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

the diffuser is applied to a surface of the element in the area.

18. (new) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein:

the diffuser comprises roughening the surface.

19. (new) An apparatus for an exterior vehicle mirror assembly including a reflective element having inner and outer surfaces and a light source positioned to direct light toward the inner surface of the reflective element, the member comprising:

a member extending between the inner surface of the reflective element and the light source, the member including an area adapted to allow light from the light source to pass therethrough;

a conductive layer deposited on the member; and

a light diffuser positioned over an area of the element to diffuse light passing through the member.

20. (new) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein:

the diffuser is directly applied to the member.

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21. (new) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein:

the diffuser is a light diffusing panel placed over the area.

22. (new) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein:

the diffuser is applied to a surface of the member in the area.

23. (new) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein:

the diffuser comprises roughening the surface.

24. (new) An apparatus for an exterior vehicle mirror assembly including a reflective element having inner and outer surfaces and a light source positioned to direct light toward the inner surface of the reflective element, the member comprising:

a member extending between the inner surface of the reflective element and the light source, the member including an area adapted to allow light from the light source to pass therethrough, the member including a conductive layer;

the member comprising a material which is substantially impermeable to light except for a patterned opening to allow light to pass therethrough; and

a light diffuser positioned over the area of the member to diffuse light passing through the member.

25. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein:

the diffuser is directly applied to the member.

26. (new) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein:

the diffuser is a light diffusing panel placed over the area.

27. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein:

the diffuser is applied to a surface of the element in the area.

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28. (new) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein:

the diffuser comprises roughening the surface.

29. (new) An exterior rearview mirror assembly for a vehicle comprising:

a mirror element;

a heater positioned relative to the mirror element for heating the mirror element, the heater including an area for letting light pass therethrough; and

a light source emitting light, the light being directed at the area;

the area diffusing the light so that the light passing therethrough is uniformly distributed.

30. (new) The exterior rearview mirror assembly of claim 29, wherein:

the mirror element comprises an electrochromic mirror subassembly including a front glass element and a rear glass element, with electrochromic material located between the front glass element and the rear glass element.

31. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 30, wherein:

the light source comprises a LED.

32. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 29, wherein:

the area comprises a diffuser directly applied to the area.

33. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 32, wherein:

the diffuser is a light diffusing panel placed over the area.

34. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 29, wherein:

the area comprises a diffuser applied to a surface of the member in the area.

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35. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 34, wherein:
the diffuser comprises roughening the surface.

36. (new) The exterior vehicle mirror assembly of claim 29, wherein:
the light source directs the light at the portion of the mirror element.